



Second Sunday of Easter April 24, 2022

Worship of Word & Sacrament

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

Welcome to Worship

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

We will share communion together.

So let's take a moment to prepare ourselves for worship. I invite you to take 3 calm, cleansing breaths to center yourself in this place, wherever you are, as we prepare to worship the One from whom all things come.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

Amen.

We Gather as the Body of Christ

Apostolic Greeting:

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Holy One,

On this Eastertide morning, we come to you, singing alleluias, celebrating new life all around us, not quite believing it all, but going along with it, just the same.

We celebrate the doubters and questioners among us, who simply keep our faith real, who demand that we live our believing into faith that works towards justice and peace, and making sure that the hungry are nourished and loved.

We celebrate the saints among us, whose courageous faith flies without a safety net, reminding us that true discipleship is risky and radical in the face of a world held hostage by greed, love of power, and denial.

We are your Easter people, Holy One. Doubters, saints, sinners, questioners, spiritual and religious, who skip, run, and stumble on the journey. We pray that whoever we are this journey, that you might open our ears and eyes to your call, to be Your love, where ever we are. In the name of Christ we pray,¹

All: Amen.

We Hear & Proclaim God's Word

The Gospel: John 20:19-31

The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Reflection: Meeting Us Where We Are

Rev. Tina Reyes

Prayers of the People: For who or what do we keep in prayer?

Sharing the Peace

Jesus said to his disciples: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. In this community, we come together as the body of Christ to learn, to engage, and to witness God's amazing abundant love for all. Beloved, do not let your hearts be troubled.

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

¹ written by Rev Karla, and posted on **RevGalBlogPals**. <http://revgalblogpals.org/>

And also with you.

We share Jesus' Meal Together

Words of Institution

The Lord is with you.

And also with you

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal, and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Communion.

Invitation to the meal:

The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Go in peace. The God of peace is with you.

Amen.

We are Sent to Proclaim and Serve

Charge & Blessing:

God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Amen.

Dismissal:

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Sources:

Sundays and Seasons for Thanksgiving for Baptism, Thanksgiving at the Table, Blessing and Dismissal.

Re-Worship for Prayer of the Day